

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application.

The Office Action dated April 25, 2005, has been received and carefully reviewed. In that Office Action, it was indicated that claims 5-20 were allowed, and Applicant wishes to thank the examiner for this early indication of allowable subject matter. Claims 3 and 4 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but are indicated to be allowable if amended to include the limitations of their base claims. Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by White. Reconsideration and allowance of rejected claims 1-4 is respectfully requested in view of the above amendment and following remarks.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by White. By the above amendment, claim 1 has been amended to positively recite a plurality of substrate accommodating trays stacked vertically and requires a plurality of support pins each having a length sufficient to be vertically inserted through the plurality of substrate accommodating trays. White shows a processing chamber that includes a floor for holding a substrate, but does not show a plurality of substrate accommodating trays stacked vertically as now claimed. Because White does not include any element corresponding to a plurality of substrate accommodating trays stacked vertically, claim 1 is submitted to be allowable over White.

Claims 2-4 depend from claim 1 and are submitted to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 1.

CONCLUSION

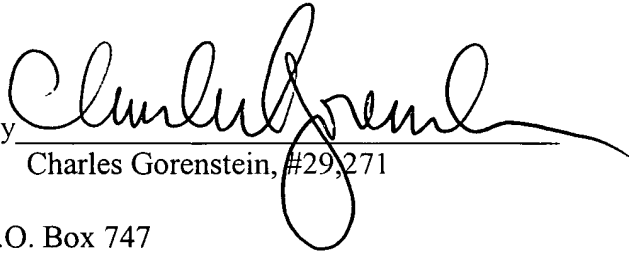
Each issue raised in the Office Action dated April 25, 2005, has been addressed, and it is believed that claims 1-20 are in condition for allowance. Claims 5-20 have been allowed, and reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-4 is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Scott Wakeman (Reg. No. 37,750) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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